

Amendments to the Specification (where added material is shown in underlined type, deleted material is shown in ~~strikeout type~~.)

[0016] FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view of half of the right side of the embodiment of FIG. 1 taken along line 3A-3A of FIG. ~~3~~with 3 with no internal components shown;

[0017] FIG. 10 is a cross-sectional view of a portion of the ~~front~~ back of the embodiment of FIG. 1 taken along line 5-5 of FIG. 5;

[0022] FIGS. 1-8 show various views of one embodiment of the present invention. Freestanding amplifier device 10 includes shell 20 having front 30, back 40, right side 50, ~~right~~ left side 60, top 70, and bottom 80; and a pair of legs, i.e., right leg 90 and left leg 95. Each of the legs has upper end 100 mounted to back 40 and lower end 110 that rests on a suitable surface, to provide the necessary additional support to allow the shell to be freestanding. Back 40 has an elongated slot 115 adjacent each of the right and left sides 50 and 60. Slots 115 are sized to receive each of legs 90 and 95 with adequate room as shown in FIG. 3 so as to avoid having to force the legs within slots 115.

[0023] Typical dimensions of amplifier 10 of this embodiment include a height in the range of about 12 to 24 inches, a width in the range of about 9 to 24 inches and a thickness in the range of about 1 to 3 inches. The resulting cross-sectional area of bottom 80 is not adequate to support shell 20 without the use of a pair of legs 90 and 95 that extend at an angle from back 40 and are respectively positioned adjacent to the ~~right~~ left side 60 and ~~left~~ right side 50 as shown in FIG. 3, 7 and 8.

[0025] FIG. 10 is a view of about a fourth of back 40 at left side ~~50~~ 60 along line 5-5 of FIG. 5. FIG. 10 shows certain of the internal features of device 10 including one of axles 118 and one of slots 115.

[0026] FIG. 11 shows half of right side 50 along line 3B-3B of FIG. 3 and shows leg 90 in its fully extended position. FIG. 11 shows leg 90 pivotally mounted on axle 118 and gear bracket 120 mounted to support 121 immediately adjacent upper portion 125 of slot 115. Sustained spring 119 is coiled around axle 118 with one end 119a being fixedly attached to support 121. As best seen in FIG. 12, support ~~Support~~ 121 is attached to internal housing 126 by means of bolts 127. Upper end 100 of leg 90 has gear 140 engaged with gear bracket 120 adjacent right side 50. Similarly, leg 95 has gear 140 engaged with gear bracket 120 adjacent left side 60, as shown in FIG. 12.

[0027] In operation, as each spring 119 causes its respective leg 90, 95 to extend out from respective slots 115, the teeth of gear 140 rotate towards a surface 142 of support 121. When the teeth of gear 140 on a given leg 90, 95 contact surface 142, further rotation of the leg 90, 95 is prevented. The surface 142 is positioned such that, when each leg 90, 95 contacts a respective surface 142, the legs are preferably extending from the amplifier 10 approximately 45° from the vertical.